

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SCCT-01 SAB-01 SSM-03 /075 W

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R 190710Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2143

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 0622

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

REF: MUSCAT 0613

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. MAY 18 EDITION OF GOVERNMENT BIWEEKLY, OMAN, (RECEIVED AFTER REFTEL SENT) CARRIED LEAD ARTICLE ABOUT RESULTS OF ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING IN ISTANBUL. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, PARTICIPANTS AGAIN TOOK POSITION THAT ZIONISM IS FORM OF RACISM. LIKEWISE, THERE WAS RESOLUTION CALLING FOR EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM U.N. FINALLY, CONFERENCE CALLED ON ISLAMIC STATES WHICH HAVE NOT DONE SO ALREADY TO PERMIT PLO TO OPEN OFFICES IN RESPECTIVE CAPITALS. ARTICLE CARRIED WITHOUT COMMENT RE OMANGOV POSITION ON THESE MATTERS. SAME EDITION INCLUDED STORY BASED ON FONMIN ZAWAWI'S REACTION TO CONFERENCE. HE WAS QUOTED AS HAVING SAID THAT RESULTS HAD BEEN "POSITIVE" AND THAT THE ATMOSPHERE HAD BEEN "BROTHERLY." ZAWAWI REPORTED THAT GULF FONMINS HAD HELD SEPARATE MEETING DURING COURSE OF CONFERENCE, BUT NO DETAILS GIVEN. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL COMMENT: ALTHOUGH AMBASSADOR GAVE ZAWAWI AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON RESULTS OF CONFERENCE, ZAWAWI'S REPLY WAS LACONIC AS REPORTED REFTEL. WE BELIEVE IT LIKELY THAT OMANGOV, PERHAPS WITH SOME RELUCTANCE AND MISGIVING, WILL GO ALONG WITH ANY ANTI-ISRAELI RESOLUTIONS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA. CONFIDENTIAL

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WHETHER OMANIS WILL GO ALONG WITH APPEAL TO PERMIT PLO TO OPEN

AN OFFICE HERE IS ANOTHER MATTER. WHEN AN ISSUE GETS THIS CLOSE
TO HOME, OMANGOV IS APT TO BE MUCH MORE AWARE OF ITS OWN DIRECT
INTERESTS. ALL PALESTINIANS CONTINUE TO BE REGARDED AS PO-
TENTIAL THREATS TO LOCAL SECURITY. HENCE, EMBASSY WOULD BE
SURPRISED TO SEE EARLY ACTION ON THAT PARTICULAR RESOLUTION.
WOLLE

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